

Intellectual Property Committee July 2001-June 2002 Annual Report

Committee Membership, 2000-2001

Elected members (final year of term)

Tamir Datta, Physics and Astronomy, IPC Chair (2002)

Stephen McNeill, Mechanical Engineering (2002)

Michael Myrick, Chemistry (IPC-Chair elect 2003)

Ann Bartow, Law (2004)

John Woods, Center for Health Services and Policy Research (2004)

Appointed members

George Lampl, Associate General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

Anthony Boccanfuso, Managing Director, USC Research Foundation

Intellectual Property Management Office

Steve Etheredge, Associate Director USCRF

Committee Activities

The Intellectual Property Committee (IPC) scheduled meetings to consider policy changes as well as consider invention disclosures made by faculty and staff.

Disclosures Processed. During the reported period, the IPC dealt with forty-six (46) disclosures from eighteen (18) departments. This large number of disclosures reflects the concerted effort by the IPC and the USCRF personnel to encourage inventors to present/submit inventions at an early stage of concept inception.

Review of Disclosures. The University possessed a great number of disclosures for technologies that were not being actively marketed or that the current status was not known. USCRF engaged Concurrent Technologies to review all of these disclosures and to provide some commercial assessment of the technologies based upon information gathered from the inventors. Of the 326 technologies reviewed, 76 disclosures were marked CLOSED, 143 files designated as ACTIVE, and 22 technologies marked as either OPTIONED OR LICENSED (the others were marked RETURNED TO THE INVENTOR , INACTIVE OR UNKNOWN)..

Education Sessions: The USC Research Foundation hosted a number of education sessions for faculty, staff and students during the year. Speakers represented a number of different law and consulting firms, including Cooley and Godward (Reston, VA), Nath and Associates (Washington, DC) and Concurrent Technologies (Greenville, SC).

Personnel Changes: Richard Cox, director of the Intellectual Property management Office, left in September 2001. Debbie Whittemore, administrative assistant, left in January 2002. During the year, Dr, Anthony Boccanfuso, Managing Director of USCRF, and Steve Etheredge, Associate Director of SPAR, handled IP matters. Dr. Michael Muthig was hired as a Senior Licensing Officer and began his duties in July 2002.

Eastman/Voridian IP Donation. The USC Research Foundation received a large donation of patents and other technical know-how from Eastman Chemical Corporation and its Voridian Division. These technologies are in the area of nanocomposites and a team of USC Nanocenter researchers are conducting research using the knowledge gained through this donation. USCRF also received two licenses in conjunction with this donation.

Website. The website was upgraded to conform to USC standards and a great deal of new information were added. It can be found at: <http://ip.research.sc.edu/>

Marketing. Marketing material has been created for all of the university's intellectual property. Abstracts on each of the technologies can be found at: <http://ip.research.sc.edu/technologies.htm>

Respectfully Yours,

Timir Datta
IP Chair